Frequently Asked Questions
Focus Districts and Focus Schools

District 180- Regulations and Statutes
KRS 160.346 Persistently Low-Achieving Schools and School Intervention
703 KAR 5:260 Implementation of Intervention options in priority schools and districts
703 KAR 5:190 Assistance to Low Achieving Schools
703 KAR 5: 225 School and district accountability, recognition, support, and consequences

What is District 180?
District 180 is an organizational unit in the Office of Continuous Improvement and Support in the Kentucky Department of Education. District 180 monitors and supports continuous improvement in Priority Schools, Focus Schools and Focus Districts.

What is a Focus School?

Schools that meet one or more of the following categories:
Non-Duplicated Gap Group Category Schools that have a non-duplicated student gap group score in the bottom ten percent of non-duplicated gap group scores for all elementary, middle and high schools.
Bottom Five Percent Category Schools with an individual student subgroup by level that falls in the bottom five percent for individual subjects.
Graduation Rate Category High Schools that have a graduation rate that has been less than eighty percent for two consecutive years.

How does a school exit Focus Status?

Schools that meet the criteria's within the category that placed them in Focus status:
Non-Duplicated Gap Group Category Shall: Be above the lowest ten percent category Show improvement in the non-duplicated student gap group; and meet AMO for two years in a row.
Bottom Five Percent Category Shall: Have the individual subgroup that triggered the school's placement in the category to: Rise above the bottom five percent cut score Show improvement in the individual subgroup that triggered the school's placement; and meet the AMO for two years in a row.
Graduation Rate Category Shall: Have a graduation rate higher than eighty percent; and meet the AMO for two years in a row.

What is a Focus District?

Focus District Entrance Category:
Districts that have a non-duplicated student gap group score in the bottom percent of non-duplicated student gap group scores for all districts.
Focus District Exit Category:
District in the non-duplicated student gap group category shall be above the lowest percent category.

What is the difference between a Focus School and a Priority School?

Focus Schools	Priority Schools
Schools that have a non-duplicated student gap group score in the bottom ten percent of non-duplicated gap group scores for all elementary, middle and high schools. Schools with an individual student subgroup by level that falls in the bottom five percent for individual subjects. High Schools that have a graduation rate that has been less than eighty percent for two consecutive years.	Schools that have an overall score in the bottom five percent of overall scores by level for all schools that have failed to meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) for the last three consecutive years.

What are Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) and Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KAR)?

KAR: Kentucky Administrative Regulations:	KRS: Kentucky Revised Statutes:
A regulation is created by an administrative agency based on statutory authority. The Kentucky Administrative Regulations, commonly called the KAR, are "issued" or "promulgated" by Kentucky agencies to execute certain mandates created by Kentucky statutes, or the KRS.	A statute is the written law created by a legislative body. The Kentucky Revised Statutes, commonly called the KRS, was created by the Kentucky General Assembly and is the written body of law for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

What is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)?

ESSA is the new federal education law that provides Kentucky more flexibility and allows the state to design a more effective accountability system that encourages improved learning opportunities, achievement and readiness for all students.

For more information on ESSA visit this link:

http://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/Every-Student-Succeeds-Act-(ESSA).aspx

Helpful Links:

Focus Schools and Focus District Resources
http://education.ky.gov/school/focschls/Pages/default.aspx

Priority and Educational Recovery Resources
http://education.ky.gov/school/prischedrecov/Pages/PS-ERSup.aspx

Open House
The Open House System is Kentucky Department of Education's public one-stop-shop for education data. The Open House system will provide data specific to the state, school or districts
http://openhouse.education.ky.gov/

Parent and Student Resources
Parents and students can find additional information regarding the Kentucky Department of Education by visiting the links below:
For additional information please visit the Kentucky Department of Education link below dedicated to parents;
http://education.ky.gov/parents/Pages/default.aspx
For additional information please visit the Kentucky Department of Education link below dedicated to students;
http://education.ky.gov/students/Pages/default.aspx

School Report Card Glossary
http://applications.education.ky.gov/SRC/Glossary.aspx